

Lebo City Council Special Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2025
Lebo Community Building
320 N. Ogden St. Lebo, Kansas
7:00 p.m.

Mayor Eric Ferguson called the special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the Lake Dam project and the preliminary 2026 budget figures. Call to Order

Mayor Ferguson opened the meeting with the flag salute.

All Governing Body members were present:

Mayor Eric Ferguson

Councilmembers Will Baker, Troy Friend, Amanda Hopkins, Jim Jones, and Nick Sanchez.

Ben Kramer, Kramer Consulting, presented the plans and specifications for the Lebo Lake Dam rehabilitation. Updates were made to the 2024 engineer's estimated probable cost of \$172,855 to \$177,631 for the repair of 125 ft. of the dam and stilling basin, which was deemed an immediate need area in the 2023 safety inspection report. The 2024 engineer's estimated probable cost to rehabilitate the entire dam area was \$842,500, with the updated cost being \$910,635. The figures we derived by using an inflation factor. Lake Dam

December 2024 council made the motion to amend the contract for plans and specifications of the immediate needs area to plans and specifications for the entire dam area. Kramer presented an overview of his firm's recommendations for the plans and specifications needed for the rehab of the entire dam area. After a review of the plans and specifications, Hopkins moved to submit the plans and specs to the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resources for approval. Friend seconded. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Submit to State

Council reviewed the County Clerk's 2026 budget information:

2024 final assessed valuation was 7,574,142 with the mil levy 29.478000 equaling \$223,270.56 in property taxes. 2026 Budget

July 1, 2025, estimated assessed valuation is 9,079,535 with a RNR at a 24.592000 mil levy equaling \$223,283.92 in property tax.

Mil levies for 2025 budget were: 29.478000 RNR

General Fund	21.039000	\$159,352
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Employee Benefit	7.037000	\$ 53,300
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Law Enforcement	1.123000	\$ 8,506
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Special Liability	0.27000	\$ 2,113
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Sloan suggested, when using the RNR 24.592000 setting, the 2026 mil levies per fund at

General Fund	14.15100	\$128,485
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Employee Benefits	9.02400	\$81,933
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Law Enforcement	1.11700	\$10,142
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Special Liability	0.30000	\$ 2,724
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The General Fund would see an approximate \$30,000 decrease in property tax revenue. Interest earned on the city's idle funds in C/D's and the franchise fees collected will cover that decrease.

The Employee Benefit will see an increase in expenses of approximately \$25,000 in 2026, a 2 mil increase will cover that.

Sloan suggested splitting the wages, employee benefits, and commodities expenses that the Gas Fund had covered in previous years between employee benefits (approximately \$22,000), Water and Gas(Approximately \$35,000) each. Sloan suggested considering 2026 utility rate increase of around \$10.00 a month on the sewer base charge. And \$3.00 /1,000 on the water rate to cover the cost of the water tower maintenance and water rate increase from the city water supplier. Other

increases to the water and sewer fund expenses will include wages, employee benefits, and commodities that were previously billed to the gas fund.

The employees' capital improvement and other budget requests for 2026 included:

Water: water tower repair payments \$27,000, Auto read meters \$7,500, GSI mapping \$6,000, and increase in water cost-\$10,500

Sewer: increase expense in wages and employee benefits- \$30,000, lift station- \$80,000, and GSI mapping-\$6,000

General Fund and other Capital Improvements:

New desktop computer and printer-\$3,000, increase police expenses to cover license plate reader and cellubrite agreements with the Sheriff's department-\$4,200, dam inspection-\$5000, dam project cost (unknown), increase in fireworks for the U.S.A. 250-year celebration of Independence(undecided), and nuisance property cleanup and spring cleanup-\$10,000.


Increasing Special Liability expenditures to \$5,000 to cover the cost of the special liability insurance increase.


Park Department: water fountain/aerator at West Park-\$5,000, ditch work – west and south of tennis courts-\$15,000, grass seed, tree trimming/removal-\$5,000, and baseball/football maintenance \$15,000.

The city auditor will be in the city office on June 27th for the 2024 audit and to work on the 2026 budget.

Friend moved, and Hopkins seconded the motion to adjourn. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Adjourn

Approved: 
Eric S. Ferguson, Mayor

Attest: 
Carrie J. Sloan, City Clerk